BRFSS Brief

Number 1810

The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) is an annual statewide telephone survey of adults developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and administered by the New York State Department of Health. The BRFSS is designed to provide information on behaviors, risk factors, and utilization of preventive services related to the leading causes of chronic and infectious diseases, disability, injury, and death among the noninstitutionalized, civilian population aged 18 years and older.

Perceived Food Security

New York State Adults, 2016

Introduction and Key Findings

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) defines food security as "access by all people at all times to enough food for an active, healthy life". In contrast, food insecurity is characterized by limited economic resources to consistently obtain adequate food. Adults with food insecurity have a higher probability of numerous chronic diseases, including hypertension, heart disease, diabetes, stroke, cancer, hepatitis, asthma, arthritis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and kidney disease. Statistics reported by the USDA indicate that in 2016 more than 41 million people in the United States (US) lived in food-insecure households highlighting the public health significance of the problem.

Food security has been shown to vary by geographic location and individual or household characteristics (e.g. income or race/ethnicity).³ For example, in the US, households with food insecurity are more likely to be headed by non-Hispanic blacks or Hispanics, have incomes below 185% of the federal poverty level, and be located in rural areas or principal cities of metropolitan areas.³ A report analyzing 2013 data from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) in 15 states showed that the prevalence of food security was highest among non-Hispanic whites, lower among non-Hispanic blacks and lowest among Hispanics.⁴ The prevalence of food security was also highest among persons with more than four years of college education and lowest among persons with less than a high school education.⁴ A 2017 study from Feeding America showed that in 2015 Bronx and Kings counties in New York City (NYC) had the highest rates of food insecurity in New York State (NYS) at 16.1% and 18.8%, respectively, exceeding the average county level food-insecurity rate of 14% in the United States.⁵

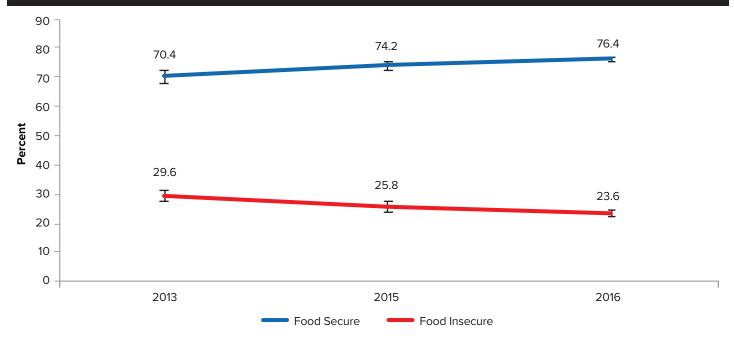
Key Findings

In 2016, one out of four adults (23.6%) in NYS indicated they were always, usually, or sometimes worried or stressed about having enough money to buy nutritious meals in the past 12 months (defined as "food insecure"), while 76.4% responded they rarely or never worried about accessing adequate food (defined as "food secure") (Table 1). The prevalence of reported food insecurity is significantly higher among Hispanic (41.3%) and non-Hispanic black adults (31.8%) than among non-Hispanic white adults (16.5%) in NYS. Food insecurity is significantly more likely to be reported among females (25.9%), adults with a household income of less than \$15,000 (47.6%), those with less than a high school degree (43.2%) and those who are unemployed (42.5%). In addition, food insecurity is significantly higher for respondents living in NYC (28.3%) compared to those residing in the rest of the state (20.5%). Overall, there was a statistically significant increase in the prevalence of reported food security from 2013 (70.4%) to 2016 (76.4%) (Figure 1).

BRFSS questions

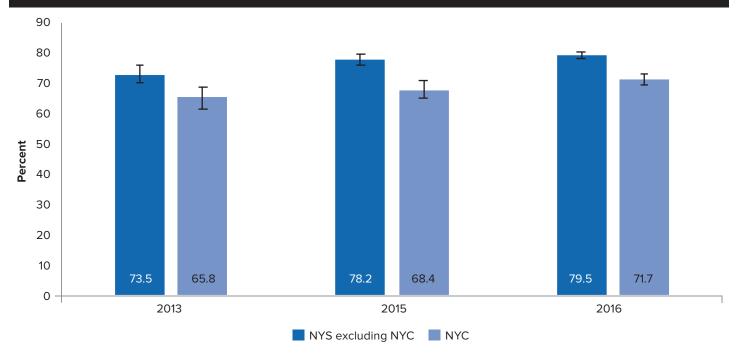
How often in the past 12 months would you say you were worried or stressed about having enough money to buy nutritious meals? Would you say you were worried or stressed — Always, Usually, Sometimes, Rarely, Never?

Figure 1. Food security¹ among New York State adults, BRFSS 2013, 2015, 2016



¹ Food secure is defined as those who responded they were rarely or never worried about having enough money to buy nutritious meals in the past 12 months. Food insecure are those who indicated they were always, usually, or sometimes worried or stressed about having enough money to buy nutritious meals in the past 12 months.

Figure 2. Food security¹ by region² among New York State adults, BRFSS 2013, 2015, 2016



¹ Food secure is defined as those who responded they were rarely or never worried or stressed about having enough money to buy nutritious meals in the past 12 months.

² Regions defined as New York City (NYC) and NYS excluding NYC.

Table 1. Food security among New York State adults, 2016 BRFSS

New York State (NYS) [n=29.508] % 95% CP % 95% CP Remote State (NYS) [n=29.508] 23.6 22.6-24.7 76.4 75.3-77.8 Female 25.9 24.4-27.3 74.1 72.7-75.6 Male 21.2 19.6-22.8 78.8 77.2-80.4 Age (years) 8.2 28.3 28.2-30.3 71.7 69.773.8 45-64 24.6 22.9-26.3 75.4 73.771.6 65+4 65+4 24.6 22.9-26.3 75.4 73.773.8 78.2 77.2-80.4 45.64 62.9-26.3 75.4 73.773.8 45-64 65+4 14.8 13.0-16.6 85.2 83.4-870.7 80.65+4 45.64 62.9-26.3 75.4 73.771.7 65+4 41.8 13.0-16.6 85.2 83.4-870.7 80.65+4 43.2 15.4-17.6 83.5 82.4-84.6 86-5+4 84.6 84.5-84.6 84.6 84.7-18.8 60.4-7.718.8 74.6-7.8 82.5-84.6 85.7 55.6-6.18 60.4-7.718.8 74.6-7.8 75.6-6.18 60.		Food In	Food Insecure ¹		Food Secure ¹	
Gender 25.9 24.4.27.3 74.1 72.7.75.6 Male 25.9 24.4.27.3 74.1 72.7.80.4 Male 21.2 19.6-22.8 78.8 77.2-80.4 Age (years) 72.2 72.2 80.1 25-44 23.8 19.9-27.8 76.2 72.2-80.1 45-64 24.6 22.9-26.3 75.4 75.77.71 65+ 14.8 13.0-16.6 85.2 83.4-87.0 Rece/ethnicity White non-Hispanic 16.5 15.4-17.6 83.5 82.4-84.6 Black non-Hispanic 41.3 38.2-44.4 58.7 55.6-61.8 Other non-Hispanic 41.3 38.2-44.4 58.7 55.6-61.8 Other non-Hispanic 42.4 179-26.9 77.6 73.1-82.1 Education Less than high school 43.2 39.5-47.0 56.8 53.0-60.5 High school graduate or GED 27.8 25.5-30.1 72.2 69.9-74.8 Some post-high school<		%	95% Cl ²	%	95% Cl ²	
Female 25.9 24.4-27.3 74.1 72.7-75.6 Male 21.2 19.6-22.8 78.8 77.2-80.4 Age (years) I8:24 23.8 19.9-27.8 76.2 72.2-80.1 25-44 28.3 26.2-30.3 71.7 69.7-73.8 45-64 24.6 22.9-26.3 75.4 73.7-71. 65+ 14.8 13.0-16.6 85.2 33.4-87.0 Mace/ethnicity White non-Hispanic 16.5 15.4-17.6 83.5 82.4-84.6 Black non-Hispanic 31.8 28.2-25.3 68.2 64.7-71.8 Hispanic 41.3 38.2-44.4 58.7 55.6-61.8 Other non-Hispanic 22.4 17.9-26.9 76.8 73.7-82.1 Education Less than high school 43.2 39.5-47.0 56.8 53.0-60.5 High school graduate or GED 27.8 25.5-30.1 72.2 69.9-74.5 Some post-high school 23.2 21.2-25.1 76.8 <td>New York State (NYS) [n=29,508]</td> <td>23.6</td> <td>22.6-24.7</td> <td>76.4</td> <td>75.3-77.4</td>	New York State (NYS) [n=29,508]	23.6	22.6-24.7	76.4	75.3-77.4	
Male 21.2 19.6-22.8 78.8 77.2-80.4 Age (years) 75.24 23.8 19.9-27.8 76.2 72.2-80.1 25-44 28.3 26.2-30.3 71.7 69.7-73.8 45-64 24.6 22.9-26.3 75.4 73.7-77.1 65+ 14.8 13.0-16.6 85.2 83.4-87.0 Race/ethnicity 85.2 83.4-87.0 83.5 82.4-84.6 Black non-Hispanic 16.5 15.4-17.6 83.5 82.4-84.6 Black non-Hispanic 41.3 38.2-44.4 58.7 55.6-61.8 Other non-Hispanic 41.3 38.2-44.4 58.7 55.6-61.8 Other non-Hispanic 43.2 39.5-47.0 56.8 53.0-60.5 Ebucation 2 24 17.9-26.9 76.6 73.1-82.1 Ebucation 2 2 17.9-26.9 76.8 39.0-60.5 High school graduate or GED 27.8 25.5-30.1 72.2 69.9-74.5 Some post-high school 27.8	Gender					
New York City (NYC) 18-24 23.8 19.9-27.8 76.2 72.2-80.1 25.44 28.3 26.2-30.3 71.7 69.7-73.8 26.5-44 28.3 26.2-30.3 71.7 69.7-73.8 26.5-44 28.3 26.2-30.3 71.7 69.7-73.8 27.7-11 65.4 28.5 28.2-8.7-71 65.4 28.5 28.2-8.7-71 65.4 28.5 28.2-8.7-71 65.4 28.5 28.2-8.7-71 65.4 28.2-8.2-8 28.2-8.7	Female	25.9	24.4-27.3	74.1	72.7-75.6	
18-24 23.8 19.9-27.8 76.2 72.2-80.1 25-44 28.3 26.2-30.3 71.7 69.7-73.8 45-64 24.6 22.9-26.3 75.4 73.7-71. 45-64 14.8 13.0-16.6 85.2 83.4-87.0 Exace/ethnicity White non-Hispanic 16.5 15.4-17.6 83.5 82.4-84.6 Ellack non-Hispanic 31.8 28.2-35.3 68.2 64.7-71.8 Hispanic 31.8 28.2-35.3 76.8 75.6-61.8 Other non-Hispanic 32.4 179-26.9 77.6 73.1-82.1 Ebutation Less than high school 43.2 39.5-47.0 56.8 53.0-60.5 High school graduate or GED 27.8 25.5-30.1 72.2 69.9-74.5 Some post-high school 23.2 21.2-25.1 76.8 74.9-78.8 College graduate 12.2 11.0-13.4 87.8 86.6-89.1 Income <\$\f\$\$\square\$\$\	Male	21.2	19.6-22.8	78.8	77.2-80.4	
25.44 28.3 26.2-30.3 71.7 69.7-73.8 45.64 24.6 22.9-26.3 75.4 73.7-77.1 65+ 14.8 13.0-16.6 85.2 83.4-87.0 Race/ethnicity White non-Hispanic 16.5 15.4-17.6 83.5 82.4-84.6 Black non-Hispanic 31.8 28.2-35.3 68.2 64.7-71.8 Hispanic 41.3 38.2-44.4 58.7 55.6-61.8 Other non-Hispanic 24.3 39.5-47.0 76. 73.1-82.1 Education 24.2 179-26.9 77.6 73.1-82.1 Education 43.2 39.5-47.0 56.8 53.0-60.5 High school graduate or GED 27.8 25.5-30.1 72.2 69.9-74.5 Some post-high school 23.2 21.2-25.1 76.8 74.9-78.8 College graduate 47.6 43.6-51.6 52.4 48.4-56.4 \$15,000 47.6 43.6-51.6 52.4 48.4-56.4 \$15,000 to < \$25,000	Age (years)					
45-64 24.6 22.9-26.3 75.4 73.7-77.1 65+ 14.8 13.0-16.6 85.2 83.4-87.0 Raccetthnicity White non-Hispanic 16.5 15.4-17.6 83.5 82.4-84.6 Black non-Hispanic 41.3 38.2-44.4 58.7 55.6-6.8 Other non-Hispanic 22.4 17.9-26.9 77.6 73.1-82.1 Education Less than high school 43.2 39.5-47.0 56.8 53.0-60.5 High school graduate or GED 27.8 25.5-30.1 72.2 69.9-74.5 Some post-high school 23.2 212.25.1 76.8 74.9-78.8 College graduate 12.2 110.13.4 87.8 86.6-89.1 Income <\$15,000	18-24	23.8	19.9-27.8	76.2	72.2- 80.1	
65+ 14.8 13.0·16.6 85.2 83.4·87.0 Race/ethnicity White non-Hispanic 16.5 15.4·17.6 83.5 82.4·84.6 Black non-Hispanic 31.8 28.2·35.3 68.2 64.7·71.8 Hispanic 41.3 38.2·44.4 58.7 55.6·61.8 Other non-Hispanic 22.4 179.2·6.9 77.6 73.1·82.1 Education 22.4 39.5·47.0 56.8 53.0·60.5 High school graduate or GED 27.8 25.5·30.1 72.2 69.9·74.5 Some post-high school 23.2 21.2·25.1 76.8 74.9·78.8 College graduate 12.2 11.0·13.4 87.8 86.6·89.1 Income *** <td>25-44</td> <td>28.3</td> <td>26.2-30.3</td> <td>71.7</td> <td>69.7-73.8</td>	25-44	28.3	26.2-30.3	71.7	69.7-73.8	
Race/ethnicity White non-Hispanic 16.5 15.4-17.6 83.5 82.4-84.6 Black non-Hispanic 31.8 28.2-95.3 68.2 64.7-71.8 Hispanic 41.3 38.2-44.4 58.7 55.6-61.8 Other non-Hispanic 22.4 17.9-26.9 77.6 73.1-82.1 Education 22.4 17.9-26.9 76.8 55.6-61.8 Other non-Hispanic 43.2 39.5-47.0 56.8 53.0-60.5 High school graduate or GED 27.8 25.5-30.1 72.2 69.9-74.5 Some post-high school 23.2 21.2-25.1 76.8 74.9-78.8 College graduate 12.2 110-13.4 87.8 86.6-89.1 Income 42.2 110-13.4 87.8 86.6-89.1 Income 42.2 38.8-45.1 58.0 54.9-61.2 \$15,000 \$42.0 38.8-45.1 58.0 54.9-61.2 \$25,000 to <\$35,000	45-64	24.6	22.9-26.3	75.4	73.7-77.1	
White non-Hispanic 16.5 15.4-17.6 83.5 82.4-84.6 Black non-Hispanic 31.8 28.2-35.3 68.2 64.7-71.8 Hispanic 41.3 38.2-44.4 58.7 55.6-61.8 Other non-Hispanic 22.4 17.9-26.9 77.6 73.1-82.1 Education Less than high school 43.2 39.5-47.0 56.8 53.0-60.5 High school graduate or GED 27.8 25.5-30.1 72.2 69.9-74.5 Some post-high school 23.2 21.2-25.1 76.8 74.9-78.8 College graduate 12.2 11.0-13.4 87.8 86.6-89.1 Income ≰15,000 47.6 43.6-51.6 52.4 48.4-56.4 ≸15,000 to < \$25,000	65+	14.8	13.0-16.6	85.2	83.4- 87.0	
Black non-Hispanic 31.8 28.2-35.3 68.2 64.7-71.8 Hispanic 41.3 38.2-44.4 58.7 55.6-61.8 Other non-Hispanic 22.4 17.9-26.9 77.6 73.1-82.1 Education Telucation Teluca	Race/ethnicity					
Hispanic 41.3 38.2-44.4 58.7 55.6-61.8 Other non-Hispanic 22.4 17.9-26.9 77.6 73.1-82.1 Education Less than high school 43.2 39.5-47.0 56.8 53.0-60.5 High school graduate or GED 27.8 25.5-30.1 72.2 69.9-74.5 Some post-high school 23.2 21.2-25.1 76.8 74.9-78.8 College graduate	White non-Hispanic	16.5	15.4-17.6	83.5	82.4- 84.6	
Other non-Hispanic 22.4 17.9-26.9 77.6 73.1-82.1 Education Less than high school 43.2 39.5-47.0 56.8 53.0-60.5 High school graduate or GED 27.8 25.5-30.1 72.2 69.9-74.5 Some post-high school 23.2 21.2-25.1 76.8 74.9-78.8 College graduate 12.2 11.0-13.4 87.8 86.6-89.1 Income **** **** 43.6-51.6 52.4 48.4-56.4 \$15,000 to < \$25,000	Black non-Hispanic	31.8	28.2-35.3	68.2	64.7- 71.8	
Education Less than high school 43.2 39.5-47.0 56.8 53.0-60.5 High school graduate or GED 27.8 25.5-30.1 72.2 69.9-74.5 Some post-high school 23.2 21.2-25.1 76.8 74.9-78.8 College graduate 12.2 11.0-13.4 87.8 86.6-89.1 Income ≪\$15,000 47.6 43.6-51.6 52.4 48.4-56.4 \$15,000 to <\$25,000	Hispanic	41.3	38.2-44.4	58.7	55.6- 61.8	
Less than high school 43.2 39.5-47.0 56.8 53.0-60.5 High school graduate or GED 27.8 25.5-30.1 72.2 69.9-74.5 Some post-high school 23.2 21.2-25.1 76.8 74.9-78.8 College graduate 12.2 11.0-13.4 87.8 86.6-89.1 Income <\$15,000	Other non-Hispanic	22.4	17.9-26.9	77.6	73.1-82.1	
High school graduate or GED 27.8 25.5-30.1 72.2 69.9-74.5 Some post-high school 23.2 21.2-25.1 76.8 74.9-78.8 College graduate 12.2 11.0-13.4 87.8 86.6-89.1 Income	Education					
Some post-high school 23.2 21.2-25.1 76.8 74.9-78.8 College graduate 12.2 11.0-13.4 87.8 86.6-89.1 Income Variable Va	Less than high school	43.2	39.5-47.0	56.8	53.0-60.5	
College graduate 12.2 11.0-13.4 87.8 86.6-89.1 Income V <\$15,000	High school graduate or GED	27.8	25.5-30.1	72.2	69.9- 74.5	
No.	Some post-high school	23.2	21.2-25.1	76.8	74.9- 78.8	
<\$15,000	College graduate	12.2	11.0-13.4	87.8	86.6- 89.1	
\$15,000 to < \$25,000 42.0 38.8-45.1 58.0 54.9-61.2 \$25,000 to < \$35,000 29.8 26.0-33.6 70.2 66.4-74.0 \$35,000 to < \$50,000 24.3 20.9-27.7 75.7 72.3-79.1 \$50,000 to < \$75,000 16.6 13.9-19.3 83.4 80.7-86.1 \$75,000 or more 7.7 6.5-9.0 92.3 91.0-93.5 Missing³ 27.3 23.8-30.7 72.7 69.3-76.2 Employment status Employed/self-employed 21.6 20.1-23.0 78.4 77.0-79.9 Unemployed 42.5 36.8-48.1 57.5 51.9-63.2 Not in labor force 23.4 21.8-25.1 76.6 74.9-78.2 Disability⁴ Yes 40.1 37.7-42.6 59.9 57.4-62.3 No 18.7 17.6-19.9 81.3 80.1-82.4 Region New York City (NYC) 28.3 26.2-30.3 71.7 69.7-73.8	Income					
\$25,000 to < \$35,000 29.8 26.0-33.6 70.2 66.4-74.0 \$35,000 to < \$50,000 24.3 20.9-27.7 75.7 72.3-79.1 \$50,000 to < \$75,000 16.6 13.9-19.3 83.4 80.7-86.1 \$75,000 or more 7.7 6.5-9.0 92.3 91.0-93.5 Missing³ 27.3 23.8-30.7 72.7 69.3-76.2 Employment status Employed/self-employed 21.6 20.1-23.0 78.4 77.0-79.9 Unemployed 42.5 36.8-48.1 57.5 51.9-63.2 Not in labor force 23.4 21.8-25.1 76.6 74.9-78.2 Disability⁴ Yes 40.1 37.7-42.6 59.9 57.4-62.3 No 18.7 17.6-19.9 81.3 80.1-82.4 Region New York City (NYC) 28.3 26.2-30.3 71.7 69.7-73.8	<\$15,000	47.6	43.6-51.6	52.4	48.4- 56.4	
\$35,000 to < \$50,000	\$15,000 to < \$25,000	42.0	38.8-45.1	58.0	54.9- 61.2	
\$50,000 to < \$75,000 16.6 13.9-19.3 83.4 80.7-86.1 \$75,000 or more 7.7 6.5-9.0 92.3 91.0-93.5 Missing³ 27.3 23.8-30.7 72.7 69.3-76.2 \$Employment status \$Employed/self-employed 21.6 20.1-23.0 78.4 77.0-79.9 Unemployed 42.5 36.8-48.1 57.5 51.9-63.2 Not in labor force 23.4 21.8-25.1 76.6 74.9-78.2 \$Disability⁴\$Yes 40.1 37.7-42.6 59.9 57.4-62.3 No 18.7 17.6-19.9 81.3 80.1-82.4 \$Region \$New York City (NYC)\$ 28.3 26.2-30.3 71.7 69.7-73.8	\$25,000 to < \$35,000	29.8	26.0-33.6	70.2	66.4-74.0	
\$75,000 or more 7.7 6.5-9.0 92.3 91.0-93.5 Missing³ 27.3 23.8-30.7 72.7 69.3-76.2 Employment status Employed/self-employed Unemployed 21.6 20.1-23.0 78.4 77.0-79.9 Unemployed 42.5 36.8-48.1 57.5 51.9-63.2 Not in labor force 23.4 21.8-25.1 76.6 74.9-78.2 Disability⁴ Yes 40.1 37.7-42.6 59.9 57.4-62.3 No 18.7 17.6-19.9 81.3 80.1-82.4 Region New York City (NYC) 28.3 26.2-30.3 71.7 69.7-73.8	\$35,000 to < \$50,000	24.3	20.9-27.7	75.7	72.3- 79.1	
Missing³ 27.3 23.8-30.7 72.7 69.3-76.2 Employment status Status Status Status Status Status Status 77.0-79.9 Unemployed 42.5 36.8-48.1 57.5 51.9-63.2 Not in labor force 23.4 21.8-25.1 76.6 74.9-78.2 Disability⁴ Yes 40.1 37.7-42.6 59.9 57.4-62.3 No 18.7 17.6-19.9 81.3 80.1-82.4 Region New York City (NYC) 28.3 26.2-30.3 71.7 69.7-73.8	\$50,000 to < \$75,000	16.6	13.9-19.3	83.4	80.7- 86.1	
Employment status Employed/self-employed 21.6 20.1-23.0 78.4 77.0-79.9 Unemployed 42.5 36.8-48.1 57.5 51.9-63.2 Not in labor force 23.4 21.8-25.1 76.6 74.9-78.2 Disability ⁴ Yes 40.1 37.7-42.6 59.9 57.4-62.3 No 18.7 17.6-19.9 81.3 80.1-82.4 Region New York City (NYC) 28.3 26.2-30.3 71.7 69.7-73.8	\$75,000 or more	7.7	6.5-9.0	92.3	91.0- 93.5	
Employed/self-employed 21.6 20.1-23.0 78.4 77.0-79.9 Unemployed 42.5 36.8-48.1 57.5 51.9-63.2 Not in labor force 23.4 21.8-25.1 76.6 74.9-78.2 Disability ⁴ Yes 40.1 37.7-42.6 59.9 57.4-62.3 No 18.7 17.6-19.9 81.3 80.1-82.4 Region New York City (NYC) 28.3 26.2-30.3 71.7 69.7-73.8	Missing ³	27.3	23.8-30.7	72.7	69.3-76.2	
Unemployed 42.5 36.8-48.1 57.5 51.9-63.2 Not in labor force 23.4 21.8-25.1 76.6 74.9-78.2 Disability ⁴ Yes 40.1 37.7-42.6 59.9 57.4-62.3 No 18.7 17.6-19.9 81.3 80.1-82.4 Region New York City (NYC) 28.3 26.2-30.3 71.7 69.7-73.8	Employment status					
Not in labor force 23.4 21.8-25.1 76.6 74.9-78.2 Disability ⁴ Yes 40.1 37.7-42.6 59.9 57.4-62.3 No 18.7 17.6-19.9 81.3 80.1-82.4 Region New York City (NYC) 28.3 26.2-30.3 71.7 69.7-73.8	Employed/self-employed	21.6	20.1-23.0	78.4	77.0-79.9	
Disability ⁴ Yes 40.1 37.7-42.6 59.9 57.4-62.3 No 18.7 17.6-19.9 81.3 80.1-82.4 Region New York City (NYC) 28.3 26.2-30.3 71.7 69.7-73.8	Unemployed	42.5	36.8-48.1	57.5	51.9-63.2	
Yes 40.1 37.7-42.6 59.9 57.4-62.3 No 18.7 17.6-19.9 81.3 80.1-82.4 Region New York City (NYC) 28.3 26.2-30.3 71.7 69.7-73.8	Not in labor force	23.4	21.8-25.1	76.6	74.9-78.2	
No 18.7 17.6-19.9 81.3 80.1-82.4 Region New York City (NYC) 28.3 26.2-30.3 71.7 69.7-73.8	Disability ⁴					
Region 28.3 26.2-30.3 71.7 69.7-73.8	Yes	40.1	37.7-42.6	59.9	57.4-62.3	
New York City (NYC) 28.3 26.2-30.3 71.7 69.7-73.8	No	18.7	17.6-19.9	81.3	80.1-82.4	
	Region					
NYS excluding NYC 20.5 19.3-21.7 79.5 78.3-80.7	New York City (NYC)	28.3	26.2-30.3	71.7	69.7-73.8	
	NYS excluding NYC	20.5	19.3-21.7	79.5	78.3-80.7	

¹ Food secure is defined as those who responded they were rarely or never worried about having enough money to buy nutritious meals in the past 12 months. Food insecure are those who indicated they were always, usually, or sometimes worried or stressed about having enough money to buy nutritious meals in the past

¹² months.

2 % = weighted percentage; CI = confidence interval.

3 "Missing" category included because more than 10% of the sample did not report income.

All respondents who report having at least one type of disability based on Department of Health and Human Services definition for data reporting (self-care, independent living, cognitive, mobility, vision).

Discussion

Although these results show demographic disparities, the prevalence of reported food security has increased in NYS consistent with the national trend. Federal food assistance programs such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and the Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) are available to help lessen food insecurity in income-eligible populations. Other resources, such as food banks, food pantries and soup kitchens, can further assist those in need. In NYS, the Hunger Prevention and Nutrition Assistance Program (HPNAP) increases access to safe and nutritious food by providing state and federal funds to improve the quality of food distributed to approximately 2,600 Emergency Food Relief Organizations (EFRO) across NYS. Additional initiatives focused in NYC, such as the Commodity Supplemental Foods Program and Stellar Farmers' Market help to address food insecurity in those locations. BRFSS can be used to support policies and initiatives to screen for food insecurity and strengthen federal food assistance programs.

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Program Contributions

New York State Department of Health Evaluation, Research & Surveillance Unit, Division of Nutrition

Order Information

Copies may be obtained by contacting:

BRFSS Coordinator New York State Department of Health Bureau of Chronic Disease Evaluation and Research Empire State Plaza Corning Tower, Rm. 1070 Albany, NY 12237-0679

Or by phone or electronic mail:

(518) 473-0673 or BRFSS@health.ny.gov or www.health.ny.gov

